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Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 AID-05 ISO-00 EB-07 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101013 TOSEC 110161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, GH, (KISSINGER HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM GHANAIAN PRESS

REFS: A. ACCRA 3043-TOSEC 110008; B. SECTO 11035

SUGGESTED REPLIES TO POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ARE KEYED TO
REFTEL A.

1. LUSAKA SPEECH ON SOUTHERN AFRICA: WE STAND FOR
MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, AND WE WILL DO NOTHING TO SUPPORT
THE WHITE MINORITY'S EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY IN RHODESIA. WE
STRONGLY OPPOSE SOVIET/CUBAN INTERVENTION IN RHODESIA AND
ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA.

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WE ARE NOT OPPOSED TO THE MPLA PER SE, AND WE HAVE PERMIT-

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TED TRADE TO GO FORWARD WITH LUANDA. WE ARE PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH ANY GENUINE NATIONALIST AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA. WE ARE CLOSELY WATCHING THE BEHAVIOR OF THE MPLA TOWARD ITS INDEPENDENT NEIGHBORS AND LOOK FOR INDICATIONS IT IS LESSENING ITS DEPENDENCE ON A FOREIGN ARMY FOR SUPPORT.

2. US AID: AMERICAN ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA IS INCREASING. GHANA HAS BEEN A MAJOR RECIPIENT OF US AID IN THE FORM OF

PROJECT LOANS, COMMODITY IMPORT LOANS, FOOD AID, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. THE US AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT HAS JUST APPROVED THE MANAGED INPUTS AND DELIVERY OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES PROGRAM (MIDAS). MIDAS IS AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM WHICH WILL ASSIST GHANA'S SMALL-SCALE FARMER IN INCREASING PRODUCTION AND IMPROVING HIS STANDARD OF LIVING. INITIAL AID FINANCING FOR MIDAS IS A $10 MILLION LOAN AND A $1.8 MILLION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT.

3. COCOA AND COMMODITIES: WE HAVE ANNOUNCED OUR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY RENEGOTIATION OF A COCOA AGREEMENT. WE CANNOT SIGN THE NEW COCOA AGREEMENT BECAUSE ITS MECHANISM FOR DEFENDING PRICES IS TOO RIGID. WE CONSIDER THE AGREEMENT UNSOUND AND UNWORKABLE.

I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE FOURTH UN CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA TO DEMONSTRATE MY CONTINUING CONCERN WITH THIRD WORLD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND THE US INTEREST IN MAINTAINING THE CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WHICH WE BEGAN AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA. I WILL HAVE POSITIVE AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO MAKE IN NAIROBI TO FURTHER THE WORK WE BEGAN LAST SEPTEMBER AT THE UNGA'S SPECIAL SESSION.

4. NAMIBIA/SOUTH AFRICA: WE FAVOR SELF-DETERMINATION FOR NAMIBIA, AND WE WILL WORK WITH OTHER NATIONS TO ADVANCE THIS CAUSE. WE CONSIDER NAMIBIA AN INTERNATIONAL TERRITORY AND HAVE CALLED ON SOUTH AFRICA TO REMOVE ITS ILLEGAL ADMINISTRATION FROM NAMIBIA.
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WE ABHOR SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY OF APARTHEID. WE BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION IN SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA, AND RHODESIA SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF THOSE COUNTRIES ON THE GROUNDS OF RACE.

5. OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: THIS OFFICE WAS SET

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UP IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT LAST YEAR TO IMPROVE OUR CAPACITY TO SUSTAIN MORE CONTINUOUS AND EFFECTIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES WE REGARD AS OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE. THESE CONSULTATIONS, AND THEIR RESULTS, WILL BE AN ASPECT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES AND WILL, ALONG WITH ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF THOSE RELATIONS, BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN OUR DECISIONS CONCERNING THOSE NATIONS. IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED THAT SUCH DECISIONS WILL AFFECT HUMANITARIAN AID IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES NOW FORESEEABLE.

6. INVESTMENT: WE REMAIN CONVINCED THAT TRADE AND INVESTMENT CAN GREATLY ASSIST THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THE US WILL CONTINUE TO FACILITATE AMERICAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT THROUGH THE ACTIVITIES OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK, THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION, AND OTHER US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

I HOPE THAT GHANA'S ECONOMIC POLICIES WILL ENCOURAGE FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE ALREADY SIZABLE AMERICAN PRIVATE INVESTMENT HERE. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ECONOMIC GROWTH SOMETIMES ENTAILS THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EXPATRIATE FIRMS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. IN THE CASE OF POSSIBLE GHANAIAN PARTICIPATION IN US COMPANIES, WE MUST INSURE THAT THE US FIRMS ARE PROTECTED FROM DISCRIMINATORY ACTION AND THAT FAIR COMPENSATION IS PROVIDED TO THE US INVESTOR.

7. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON ABOVE SUBJECTS CONTAINED IN BRIEFING BOOK ENTITLED PRESS GUIDANCE FOR SECRETARY.

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